Scheme. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. Projects under the scheme are to be taken up in Two Parts. Part-A is to include the projects for establishment of baseline data and IT applications for energy accounting / auditing and IT based consumer service centers. Part-B includes regular distribution strengthening projects. The scheme is being operationalised by Ministry of Power.

Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Government of India has sanctioned 23 Projects amounting to Rs.1660.35 crore. The State Government has availed Rs.133.60 crore as on 16.09.2008 and has reportedly utilized the same. The implementing agencies have reported that works have been carried out in 192 un-electrified villages besides intensification works carried out in 280 already electrified villages as on 16.09.2008. The implementing agencies have also reported release of 1360 BPL household connections as on 16.09.2008. Projects for all the 23 districts of Assam have been sanctioned. The State Government of Assam has assigned execution of RGGVY works in seven districts namely Cachar, Dibrugarh, Hailakandi, Karimganj Kokrajhar, Sibsagar and sonitpur to Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) and the works in balance 16 districts are to be carried out by Assam State Electricity Board (ASEB).

Functioning of APDRP

260. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) has targeted to bring down aggregate technical and commercial losses of power utilities to fifteen per cent, within five years;

(b) whether Government has provided the support for State power utilities for the projects under APDRP and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government intends to make this support to States conditional, as a performance based incentive, rather than an assured one?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Government had launched Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in the year 2002-03 with the objective of encouraging reforms and of reduction in Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT and C) loss, improving quality of supply of power and improving consumer satisfaction. The target was to reduce AT and C losses to 15% in five years in urban and high density consumption areas, to begin with.

(b) Government of India had sanctioned projects amounting to Rs.17033.58 crore under the investment component for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution systems of the States. The States have so far utilized Rs.11279.50 crores. An amount of Rs. 2879.73 crore has also been released to nine states for achieving reduction in cash losses under the incentive component of the programme.

(c) The Government have approved the continuation of Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) during the Eleventh Five Year Plan with revised terms and

conditions as a Central Sector Scheme. The focus of the programme is on actual, demonstrable performance in terms of loss reduction. Establishment of reliable and automated systems for sustained collection of accurate base line data, and the adoption of Information Technology in the areas of energy accounting are the necessary pre-conditions before sanctioning any projects for strengthening and up-gradation of Sub-transmission and distribution networks. Projects under the scheme are to be taken up in Two Parts. Part-A is to include the projects for establishment of baseline data and IT applications for energy accounting / auditing and IT based consumer service centers. Part-B includes regular distribution strengthening projects. Initially funds for projects under both parts shall be provided through loan. Government of India will provide the permissible grant money as and when it becomes payable. The entire amount of loan for Part-A Projects is to be converted into grant once the establishment of the required Baseline data system is achieved and verified by an independent agency appointed by the Ministry of Power. Up to 50% (90% for special category states) of loan for Part-B projects is to be converted into grant on achieving the 15% AT and C loss in the project area. The Utilities are also to achieve the following target of AT and C loss reduction at utility level:

- Utilities having AT and C loss above 30%: Reduction by 3% per year
- Utilities having AT and C loss below 30%: Reduction by 1.5% per year

Setting up of power plants in Andhra Pradesh

261. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is establishing electricity generating plants in the East and West Godavari districts, to meet the urgent need of electricity of the people of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the plants would be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) Two private sector power plants, namely, Konaseema CCPP (445 MW) and Gautami CCPP (464 MW) are scheduled to be commissioned during 2008-09 in East Godavari District of Andhra Pradesh. Construction of these projects has been completed, but commissioning is held up for want of availability of gas. In the state Sector the Polavaram Hydroelectric Power Project (960 MW) is programmed to be set up by APGENCO in the East Godavari District, which is likely to come up in the 12th Plan.

Setting up of Ultra Mega Power Projects in Orissa

262. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up three Ultra Mega Power Projects in Orissa, in addition to the nine such plants in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;